



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Sara Hensley, CPRP, Interim Assistant City Manager

**DATE:** September 1, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Update on Graffiti

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We are continuing to work on the Graffiti effort in the City as well as with partners in the community. An update is provided below regarding our progress:

Law update: The Law Department is researching state law preemption issues related to proposed penalty package for graffiti offenses.

Web portal update: City staff are working to compile and finalize content for the website, which is expected to launch within the next month. They will have a display at Austin City Limits this year in an effort to launch the program. We will continue to look for opportunities to connect with neighborhoods and other community groups throughout the City as the initiative continues to develop and expand.

Blueprint update: City staff have received and reviewed the blueprint from the consultant which consisted of thirty-six (36) recommendations. These recommendations are designed to improve the overall Graffiti Report Card grade for Austin and provide a foundation for creating a graffiti-free city. Staff are working to prioritize the recommendations based on what can be implemented within the next several months and what we can implement in the future. We are preparing a response to the consultant regarding the blueprint recommendations. We anticipate the response to be completed in the next 20 days. Once we complete our response and finalize the report, we will share it with you.

Community Connections: We visited the Austin Neighborhood Council to discuss with various neighborhood leadership the Graffiti program and our goals. We will continue to work with them as we ramp up the efforts to build a citizen volunteer base.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

**Cc:** Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager  
Sandra Kim, Assistant City Attorney  
Rodney Ahart, Executive Director, Keep Austin Beautiful  
Graffiti Core Team